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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/639,098	08/16/2000	Kenichi Haruki	000993	3148

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EXAMINER

HESSELTINE, RYAN J

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2623

DATE MAILED: 11/07/2003

7

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/639,098

Applicant(s)

HARUKI ET AL.

Examiner

Ryan J Hesseltine

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 06 October 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-33 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 17-27 and 31-33 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-16 and 28-30 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 16 August 2000 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) 3,4 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Election/Restrictions

1. Applicant's election without traverse of claims 1-16 and 28-30 in Paper No. 6 is acknowledged.

Priority

2. Receipt is acknowledged of papers submitted under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d), which papers have been placed of record in the file.

Drawings

3. Figures 1A and 1B should be designated by a legend such as --Prior Art-- or --Related Art-- because only that which is old is illustrated (see page 2 of the specification). See MPEP § 608.02(g). A proposed drawing correction or corrected drawings are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

4. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

5. Claims 1-7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Valliani et al. (USPN 6,234,389, newly cited), hereafter Valliani.

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6. Regarding claim 1, Valliani discloses an extension device (PCMCIA-compliant card) having such a configuration as to be mounted in an extension bay of an information processing device (laptop computer or personal digital assistant) and comprising an identification-information-acquisition unit (module 200; Figure 5; column 3, line 51-60; column 4, line 38-49).
7. Regarding claim 2, Valliani discloses that said identification-information-acquisition unit includes a biological-information-acquisition unit (fingerprint reader 250) for acquiring biological information (Figure 5; column 6, line 66-column 7, line 12).
8. Regarding claim 3, Valliani discloses that said identification-information-acquisition unit includes an ID-card-reader unit (smart card reader 260) for reading an ID (smart) card (Figure 7, column 7, line 49-60).
9. Regarding claim 4, Valliani discloses that said identification-information-acquisition unit includes a personal-identification-number-entry unit for receiving a personal-identification-number (PIN) code (Figure 3; column 6, line 17-27).
10. Regarding claim 5, Valliani discloses that said biological information includes one of fingerprints, retinal patterns, voice, handwritings, and facial features (column 4, line 42-45).
11. Regarding claim 6, Valliani discloses that said identification-information-acquisition unit (200) is provided on a side panel of said extension device that is exposed when said extension device is mounted in the extension bay (Figures 5-7).
12. Regarding claim 7, Valliani discloses a matching (agreement) unit which matches identification information entered in said identification-information-acquisition unit with registered (previously stored) identification information (column 7, line 13-29).

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13. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

14. Claims 8-10 and 28-30 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Klatt (DE 29821644, cited on applicant's IDS, relying on USPN 6,592,031 as English language equivalent).

15. Regarding claim 8, Klatt discloses an extension device (PC card 1 according to PCMCIA standard type II) having such a configuration as to be mounted in a container portion of an information processing device (computer such as notebook or electronic personal organizer), comprising: an identification-information-acquisition unit (sensor 5 for detecting biometric data) which receives identification information (biometric data, for example, fingerprints or retina); and a carrier unit (slide 4) which carries said identification-information-acquisition unit from a position where said identification-information-acquisition unit is encased in the container portion (reciprocated) to a position where said identification-information-acquisition unit is situated outside the container portion (extended) so as to permit entry of identification information (Figure 1; column 4, line 12-23 and 40-50).

16. Regarding claim 9, Klatt discloses that said identification-information-acquisition unit includes a biological-information-acquisition unit (sensor 5) for acquiring biological (biometric) information (column 4, line 18-24).

17. Regarding claim 10, Klatt discloses that said biological information includes one of fingerprints, retinal patterns, voice, handwritings, and facial features (column 4, line 18-24).

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18. Regarding claim 28, Klatt discloses an extension device (PC card 1 according to PCMCIA standard type II) having such a configuration as to be mounted in a container portion of an information processing device (computer such as notebook or electronic personal organizer), comprising: a fingerprint reading unit (sensor 5 for detecting biometric data) which detects a fingerprint; and a carrier unit (slide 4) which carries said fingerprint-reading unit from a position where said fingerprint-reading unit is encased in the container portion (reciprocated) to a position where said fingerprint-reading unit is situated outside the container portion (extended) so as to permit reading of a fingerprint (Figure 1; column 4, line 12-23 and 40-50; column 6, line 31-39).

19. Regarding claim 29, Klatt discloses that the extension device (PC card) is detachably mounted in the container portion (notebook computer or electronic organizer) that is configured to receive therein any one of a plurality of different types of extension devices (column 1, line 14-25).

20. Regarding claim 30, Klatt discloses that the information-processing device is a portable-type information processing device (notebook computer or electronic organizer), said container unit being provided with said portable-type information processing device (column 1, line 43-53).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

21. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

22. Claims 11-14 and 16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Klatt as applied to claim 8 above, and further in view of Dickinson et al. (USPN 6,631,201, newly cited), hereafter Dickinson.

23. Regarding claim 11, Klatt does not explicitly disclose that said identification-information-acquisition unit is configured to be detachable from said carrier unit. Dickinson discloses a relief object sensor adaptor wherein the biometric sensor (5) may be detachably mounted to the sensor module (Figure 23; column 16, line 20-32). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to configure the identification-information-acquisition unit to be detachable from said carrier unit as taught by Dickinson in order to allow the user to detach and store the sensor and to allow the sensor to be easily replaced should the sensor break or otherwise be damaged (column 16, line 25-32).

24. Regarding claim 12, Dickinson discloses that said identification-information-acquisition unit is connectable to the information-processing device through a cable (312) when said identification-information-acquisition unit is detached from said carrier unit (Figures 21-23; column 16, line 9-19).

25. Regarding claims 13 and 14, neither Klatt nor Dickinson explicitly disclose that said identification-information-acquisition unit includes: a left-hand-side connector, a right-hand-side connector, and a front-side connector which are to be connected to said extension device when said extension device is mounted in a left-hand side, a right-hand side, and a front-side of the information processing device, respectively. The examiner takes Official Notice that providing connectors on multiple sides of an information-processing device is well known in the art. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to

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provide left-hand, right-hand, and front connectors to be connected to an extension device in order to allow extension devices to be connected on multiple sides of the information processing device.

26. Regarding claim 16, Klatt discloses an operation unit (electrical drive 12) which prompts said carrier unit (slide 4) to engage in first motion to situate said identification-information-acquisition unit at a position that is barely sufficient for identification information to be entered in said identification-information-acquisition unit (retracted), and prompts said carrier unit to engage in second motion to expose an entirety of said identification-information-acquisition unit outside the container portion (extended; column 4, line 40-50).

27. Claim 15 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Klatt in view of Dickinson as applied to claim 11 above.

28. Regarding claim 15, Dickinson discloses that said identification-information-acquisition unit (sensor 5) includes a cable (312) having a connector (interface 318) provided at a tip thereof, said identification-information-acquisition unit being connectable to a connector (interface 318) of the extension device (interface card 1) via said cable when said identification-information-acquisition unit is attached to said carrier unit (Figures 21-23; column 16, line 9-19), but does not disclose that said identification-information-acquisition unit is connectable to the information processing device via said cable when said identification-information-acquisition unit is detached from said carrier. The examiner takes Official Notice that connecting an identification-information-acquisition unit to an information-processing device using a cable is well known in the art as can be seen from the widespread usage of serial, parallel, USB, optical, and other

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interfaces using cables. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to connect an identification-information-acquisition unit to an information-processing device using a cable in order to allow the unit to be moved freely about the information-processing device and easily detached from the information-processing device for moving or storage.

Conclusion

29. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. USPN 6,118,485 to Hinoue et al. discloses a card type camera with image processing function. USPN 5,867,218 to Matsuzaki et al. discloses an imaging apparatus having box-like and card-like parts. USPN 6,357,663 to Takahashi et al. discloses a fingerprint identifying PC card. USPN 6,213,403 to Bates, III discloses an IC card with fingerprint sensor. USPN 6,173,405 to Nagel discloses a secure communications card modem and method of using the same. USPN 6,628,814 to Shapiro discloses an expansion card and integrated fingerprint acquisition system. USPN 6,525,932 to Ohnishi et al. discloses an expansion unit and electronic apparatus. USPN 6,330,151 to Bates, III discloses an electronic device with retractable tray.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Ryan J Hesseltine whose telephone number is 703-306-4069. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday, 8:30 AM - 5 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Amelia Au can be reached on 703-308-6604. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 872-9306.

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Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-306-0377.

rjh
November 3, 2003



JINGGE WU
PRIMARY EXAMINER